(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the reaction of the Centre to the World Bank Report;

(d) whether the Centre subsidise water supply; and

(e) if so, the annual outgo on this count during the last three years, year-wise, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) The World Bank report states that aiming at full recovery of operation and maintenance costs from user charges by the end of 11th Plan is probably feasible for both urban and rural services. Going beyond and contributing to capital costs could be envisaged in a second phase.

(c) The report has been discussed with Government of India but does not necessarily bear its approval for the contents, especially where the Bank has stated its judgement/opinions/policy recommendations.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. Drinking water supply is a State subject. The Government of India assists the States financially and technically through its Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP), as grants-in-aid.

Survey of BPL population in the country

†2560. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that survey of BPL population and their families in the country have been completed;

(b) whether it is also a fact that only 13 out of 52 points prescribed as norms to identify BPL population have been considered effective; and

(c) if so, the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Rural Development provides financial and technical assistance

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

to the States and UTs to conduct the BPL Census to identify the BPL families in the rural areas who could be provided assistance under the various programmes of the Ministry. For the 10th Five Year Plan, the Ministry had issued the guidelines to conduct the BPL Census 2002 based on the methodology of 'Score Based Ranking' of the rural households by using the 13 socio-economic parameters with each parameter having a score from 0-4. This methodology was recommended by the expert group constituted for purpose after having detailed consultations and discussions with academicians, States and other stakeholders. The Survey work under BPL Census 2002 has been completed by almost all the states. The States and UTs have been given flexibility to decide the cut off score in order to identify the prescribed number of BPL households in the rural areas which could be uniform for the state as a whole or may vary from one region to another region within the state. According to available information, states such as Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Tripura have proposed to adopt uniform cut off score, however, other States like Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand and Orissa have opted for different cut off scores for different districts/regions.

Administrative expenditure of NREG

2561. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has opposed to raise the level of administrative expenditure of the NREG; and

(b) whether Government would consider the request from States like Kerala to increase the share of fund to implementing the NREG?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Union Cabinet has approved enhancement of administrative expenses under National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) from 2% to 4% of the total cost of the project.